

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of December 26, 2006, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group III, claims 17-40, without traverse, for further prosecution.

In addition, by this amendment, Applicants note that non-elected claims 1-16 have been canceled, and that claims 17-40 have been amended for improved clarity.

If there are any issues that the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Syuji MATSUDA et al.

By: Kenneth W. Fields
Kenneth W. Fields
Registration No. 52,430
Attorney for Applicants

KWF/jjv
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
March 26, 2007